

The CDFW saltwater angling and diving record programs recognize exceptional saltwater finfish and shellfish taken in California by sport anglers and divers. The program has given CDFW biologists the opportunity to examine trophy-sized catches since the 1950s...



Joseph Kokrak claimed the state angling record for treefish in 2003 with this 4 lb 3 oz fish.



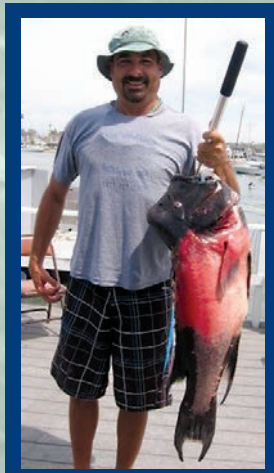
The current state angling record for striped seaperch belongs to Joseph M. Holt, who landed this 2 lb 6 oz fish in 2011.



In 2010, Dennis Tyler captured the state record for sargo with this 3 lb 3 oz fish.



In 1998, Joseph Tobin claimed the state diving record for albacore tuna with this 30 lb 11 oz fish.



Matt Freis landed the state angling record for California sheephead in 2009 with this 30 lb 8 oz fish.



The current state angling record for California halibut belongs to Francisco J. Rivera, who landed the 67 lb 4 oz fish in 2011.

For more state record finfish and shellfish photos, visit:
www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean/Records

ON THE COVER: Jeffrey Yuan tied the state angling record for calico surfperch in 2017 with this 1 lb 14 oz fish

Procedures to Apply for a Record

1. Record the date and location of the catch.
2. Take several pictures of the catch. Three or four good shots are adequate so that the finfish or shellfish can be clearly identified.
3. Weigh the fish on a **certified** scale. A grocery store or a sport angling shop should be able to help you get an official weight. Keep the receipt and send it in with your application. Make sure to write down the scale's official certification number.
4. Get two witnesses to verify the weigh in. These should be people you do not know. We will need their contact information for verification of your record.
5. Have a trained marine biologist correctly identify the catch. You can do this at California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) field offices (see current regulations booklet for locations) or you can take the catch to a university or a museum where a trained biologist can verify the species of your catch.
6. Fill out the entire application and turn it in, following all instructions provided (this brochure does not include all instructions). The complete procedural form and application are available from your local CDFW office or on the CDFW website. Different rules apply to the angling and diving record programs. Applicants are responsible for following all rules and instructions. To request record application forms, contact:

Ed Roberts
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Phone: (707) 441-5757
www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean/Records

Help Fish and Game Wardens
Put an End to Poaching

If you witness poaching or polluting, call
1-888-334-CalTIP
(1-888-334-2258)

Alternate communication format available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed call 1-707-964-5026 or the California Relay (Telephone) Service for the deaf or hearing impaired from TDD phones at 1-800-735-2929.

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California Saltwater
Angling and Diving
Records





California Sport Diving Records			
Species	Length/Wt.	Year	Diver (Method)
Abalone, Red*	12 ½ in	1993	John Pepper (Free)
Barracuda, California	14 lb 7 oz	1957	Duke Pawlowicz (Free)
Bass, Barred Sand	12 lb 12 oz	2004	Steven Castro (Free)
Bass, Kelp	12 lb 6 oz	2012	Dave Freeman (Free)
Bonito, Pacific	10 lb 4 oz	1967	Sid Campbell (Free)
Cabazon	18 lb 6 oz	1984	Ron Granholt (Free)
Clam, Pismo	6 ¾ in	2010/2014	S. Crooke/R. Takayama (Free)
Corbina, California	5 lb 15 oz	1982	Willis Reeder (Free)
Croaker, Spotfin	8 lb 12 oz	1968	Omar Wood (Free)
Dolphinfish	24 lb 8 oz	2009	Jason Merrell (Free)
Flounder, Starry	OPEN - Minimum size requirement: 8 lb		
Halibut, California	72 lb 8 oz	1982	William Skwarlo (Scuba)
Lingcod	37 lb 0 oz	2012	Dan Silveira (Free)
Lobster, Spiny	16 lb 1 oz	1968	Jim Watt (Scuba)
Opaleye	13 lb 7 oz	1964	David Williams (Free)
Pile Perch	2 lb 8 oz	2011	Christopher Saxl (Free)
Prickleback, Monkeyface	7 lb 5 oz	2013	Jim Russell (Free)
Rockfish, Black	8 lb 3 oz	2008	Chris Cornett (Free)
Rockfish, Blue	4 lb 7 oz	2017	Woody Venard (Free)
Rockfish, Bocaccio	4 lb. 9 oz	2017	Daniel Silveira (Free)
Rockfish, Copper	9 lb 5 oz	1972	Dale Vinnedge (Free)
Rockfish, Grass	6 lb 7 oz	2018	Jordan A. Lewis (Free)
Rockfish, Olive	6 lb 1 oz	2012	Christopher Cupples (Free)
Rockfish, Vermilion	10 lb 10 oz	2018	Aaron J. Bever (Free)
Scallop, Rock	11 ⅞ in	1972	Hank Harper (Scuba)
Seabass, White	93 lb 4 oz	2007	Bill Ernst (Free)
Seaperch, Rubberlip	4 lb 10 oz	2012	Christopher Cupples (Free)
Shark, Blue	231 lb 0 oz	1974	Robert L. Ballew (Free)
Shark, Shortfin Mako	484 lb 4 oz	2017	Yu Fukushima (Free)
Sheephead, California	40 lb 7 oz	1992	Chip Burton (Scuba)
Tuna, Albacore	30 lb 11 oz	1998	Joseph E. Tobin (Free)
Tuna, Bluefin	269 lb 11 oz	2016	Kevin Scully (Free)
Tuna, Yellowfin	17 lb 13 oz	1992	Jim Russell (Free)
Yellowtail	65 lb 0 oz	1988	Tom Murray (Free)

California Sport Angling Records (hook and line)							
Species	Weight	Year	Angler	Species	Weight	Year	Angler
Barracuda, California	15 lb 15 oz	1957	C.O. Taylor	Rockfish, Olive	7 lb 4 oz	2014	Greg Veach
Bass, Barred Sand	13 lb 3 oz	1988	Robert Halal	Rockfish, Vermilion	14 lb 9 oz	1996	Bobby Cruce
Bass, Kelp	14 lb 7 oz	1958	C.O. Taylor	Rockfish, Yellowtail	5 lb 8 oz	1991	Alberto Cortez
Bass, Spotted Sand	6 lb 12 oz	1994	Matt Bergherm	Salmon, Chinook (King)	65 lb 4 oz	2002	Franklin T. Cox
Bonito, Pacific	21 lb 5 oz	2003	Kim Larson	Sargo	3 lb 3 oz	2010	Dennis Tyler
Cabazon	23 lb 4 oz	1958	Bruce Kuhn	Scorpionfish, Calif. (Sculpin)	3 lb 0 oz	1997	Nathan Weatherson
Corbina, California	7 lb 1 oz	2005	Scott Matthews	Seabass, White	78 lb 0 oz	2002	David L. Sternberg
Croaker, Spotfin	14 lb 0 oz	1951	Charles Dusart	Seaperch, Rubberlip	5 lb 0 oz	2009	Russell P. Jacobs
Croaker, Yellowfin	3 lb 14 oz	2000	Fred Oakley	Seaperch, Striped	2 lb 6 oz	2011	Joseph M. Holt
Dolphinfish	66 lb 0 oz	1990	Kim Carson	Shark, Blue	258 lb 8 oz	2008	Josh W. Bollinger
Flounder, Starry	11 lb 4 oz	1993	Steve Doshier	Shark, Leopard	47 lb 1 oz	2007	Ronald Schmidt
Greenling, Kelp	3 lb 4 oz	2014	Matthew Franco	Shark, Sevengill	276 lb 0 oz	1996	Cliff Brewer
Halibut, California	67 lb 4 oz	2011	Francisco J. Rivera	Shark, Shortfin Mako	1,098 lb 12 oz	2010	Sean Gizatullin
Jacksmelt	1 lb 8 oz	1998	William J. Rogers	Shark, Soupfin (Tope)	38 lb 4 oz	2017	Kevin Cheeseman
Lingcod	56 lb 0 oz	1992	Carey Mitchell	Shark, Thresher	575 lb 0 oz	2007	Daniel D. Lara
Mackerel, Jack	5 lb 8 oz	1988	Joe Bairian	Sheephead, California	30 lb 8 oz	2009	Matt Freis
Mackerel, Pacific (Chub)	2 lb 8 oz	1995/2005	B. Tanji/T. Hilgert	Sole, Fantail	8 lb 8 oz	2001	Allan Sheridan
Marlin, Blue	692 lb 0 oz	1931	A. Hamann	Squid, Humboldt	OPEN - Minimum size requirement: 40 lb		
Marlin, Striped	339 lb 0 oz	1985	Gary Jasper	Surfperch, Barred	4 lb 2 oz	1995/1996	A.J. Ferguson/F. Oakley
Opah	163 lb 0 oz	1998	Tom Foran	Surfperch, Calico	1 lb 14 oz	2016/2017	K. Lombard/J. Yuan
Opaleye	6 lb 4 oz	1956	Leonard Itkoff	Surfperch, Rainbow	OPEN - Minimum size requirement: 1 lb		
Perch, Black	2 lb 9 oz	2011	Zachary Mitchell	Surfperch, Redtail	3 lb 7 oz	2012	Ruthie Montgomery
Perch, Pile	2 lb 4 oz	2013	Matthew Michie	Surfperch, Walleye	OPEN - Minimum size requirement: 1 lb		
Prickleback, Monkeyface	6 lb 6 oz	2017	Robert Spinale	Swordfish, Broadbill	452 lb 8 oz	2003	David M. Denholm
Ray, Bat	181 lb 0 oz	1978	Bradley Dew	Treefish	4 lb 3 oz	2003	Joseph Kokrak
Rockfish, Black	9 lb 2 oz	1988	Trent Wilcox	Tuna, Albacore	90 lb 0 oz	1997	Don Giberson
Rockfish, Blue	3 lb 14 oz	1993	Terry Lamb Jr.	Tuna, Bigeye	240 lb 0 oz	1987	Steve Hutchinson
Rockfish, Bocaccio	17 lb 8 oz	1987	Sam Strait	Tuna, Bluefin	245 lb	2016	John E. Correia
Rockfish, Brown	6 lb 15 oz	2008	Robert Gibbons	Tuna, Skipjack	26 lb 0 oz	1970	William Hall
Rockfish, China	3 lb 4 oz	1998	Joe Newman	Tuna, Yellowfin	265 lb	2017	Bo Scanlon
Rockfish, Copper	8 lb 5 oz	1985	Kenny Aab	Whitefish, Ocean	13 lb 12 oz	1988/2010	B. Schwenk/K. Yonei
Rockfish, Grass	6 lb 7 oz	2012	Wesley Shum	Yellowtail	63 lb 1 oz	2000	Kwang Nam Lee
Rockfish, Greenspotted	2 lb 5 oz	2005	John Wallick				
Saltwater angling records are for all tackle types. State law presently prohibits the take of giant (black) sea bass, and bronzespotted, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish off California (California Administrative Code Title 14, sections 28.10 and 28.55 [b]).							

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* The recreational red abalone fishery was closed for 2018.